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From: Gabrielle Watt [<mailto:gabriellewatt@homemail.com.au>]

Sent: Saturday, 2 June 2007 4:52 PM

To: Jaireth, Hanna

Subject: ACTION SUBMISSION

Dear Hanna,

Here is my submission. . My phone no. is 6249 1631 if you need to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Gabrielle Watt

ACTION SUBMISSION BY GABRIELLE WATT 2nd June 2007

I have used the bus services since 1960 as my main means of transport. I live in house 1 of 136 Blamey Cr. Campbell, some distance from the nearest bus stop at 126 Blamey Cr. At the age of 78 with osteoarthritis, I need to a walking stick. With no footpath on that side of the road, a rough land uneven nature strip, and poorly lit, I have great difficulty walking to and from that bus stop. The bus stop has no shelter or even a seat, nor are there timetables available at the bus stop.

The only public transport in Canberra had severe cuts last December, and Campbell has only an hourly service outside of commuting hours. Weekend services are even worse where the Monday to Friday bus no. 33 is replaced by the 2 bus services 930 and 931, which travel alternatively from Civic through Reid, Campbell and ADFA, and back to Civic (route 930), or from Civic to ADFA, Campbell and Reid and back to Civic (route 931). In Civic, bus 33 leaves from bay 7 for ADFA, whereas busses 930 and 931 leave from bay 8 around the corner. Occasional users of the bus system are thoroughly confused. The Civic Interchange needs to be very much better lit at night, The Civic bus stop shelters are appalling as shelters.

To sum up my experience I have found that the bus timetable and bus stop facilities are disadvantageous to older people. On the other hand, the drop down platform in newer busses is extremely advantageous, as well as the well-known friendliness of the bus drivers.

To address Resolution 1d, key priorities are better timetabling to encourage more bus patrons, and better facilities at bus stops particularly where there is a concentration of medium density housing. More drop down platforms are needed on the busses. More timetables are needed at least at the major bus stops. Other bus systems have such innovations as screens telling patrons when the next bus is due, which would be desirable in Canberra at least at the main bus Interchanges.

Attacks on people at Interchanges including bus drivers alarm people and put them off using the bus services. This is a major priority to improve bus services in Canberra.